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'LITTLE DUCHESS" MAS-

quired Turov, the dreamy, the absent-minded, the demon in combat. It was the child with his helmet.

"What could I do?" the Bohemian is res resented as telling. "Fool the child? In cares for me, who runs in the hot sun to

cares for me, who runs in the hot sun to make me wear my helmet? No, I cannot. So I said, 'Give me the thing. I'll wear it and have headache."

An hour later Turov, who had never been touched throughout the war and claimed to 'have a star,' received a man's size shellscrap on the head. It dented the steel helmet and knocked him unconscious for ten minutes, but it would have spat-

clearly indicated she could spare him better.

All right. The Breton, having thus, now, at last, the child's permission to go, went to his friends in the rear. The second night their house was demolished by a long-range German shell, one killed, two wounded, but the Breton quite safe. He went to stay with new friends in a nearby village. The first night he slept there another German shell blew up that house, killed none, but wounded four—and Quennien again without a scratch! "You are too lucky," said the people. No third family would receive him, so he returned to the legion.

Everybody, of course, is not willing to put up with a child's whims in matters of personal convenience, and there are strong characters everywhere. There was a cook of the legion named Laurent, a Frenchman (like Quennien, the Breton, and others, by voluntary engagement before the war, when the legion was in north Africa and many joined it for adventure or to hide from some scrape). Laurent was not adventurous, and, as cook, it was no part of his duty to go on expeditions, but he was curious and one day started off by favor with a scouting party. The little

There, lingering a moment, they came on a poor little soldier's grave of the retreat of 1914, with these words on a rainwashed wooden cross, which had fallen and lay flat across the mound:
"To the Soldier Laurent, of the 36th Infantry."

The cook Laurent best over the reading the soldier than the cook that the cook the cook that the cook the c

The cook Laurent bent over it, reading.
"Tlens," he said, "if my wife should pass this way, she might think it was me." me."

Scarcely had he spoken when a long-range Austrian "zim-boom" fell from a clear sky, exploding with its double burst, terrifically. It laid Laurent, the cook, a mangled mess, upon the little wooden cross which bore his name.

Believe this, all, or in parts, or as you please.

Believe this, all, or in parts, or as you please.

But, certainly (as the story is told), this was the incident which clinched completely, without shadow of a doubt, the reputation of the little mascot of the legion.

The Orphelinat des Armees, naturally, sought to take the child, but the legion, up to writing, kept her, temporarily, in any case, "to recover from her fright, among known and friendly faces," and under the technical care of Father D—the chaplain, and certain good women. "We shall find her family and her fortune for her," the legionaries are supposed to meditate. "She is a duchess, or, at least, a countess."

STERLING HEILIG. America's "Old Boys."

From the Dayton (Ohio) News. The writers do not seem to grow old. Other people wither and die, but those who write pay little attention to age or to the burdens which age brings to that is the way it seems when we pick up the Courier-Journal and find Henry Watterson, young at seventy-seven, hammering out the most virile editorials that are being printed in this coun-

But Henry Watterson is no exception. William Dean Howells, whose "Leatherwood God" appeared this year in the Century, is hale and hearty at eighty. Amelia Barr is eighty-five and still writing. Ex-President Charles W. Ellot, who took part in the late campaign by writing vigorously, is eighty-two-only a couple of years older than that grand young gentleman of the fields and forests, John Burroughs. Henry Mills Alden, editor of Harper's, and Dr. Lyman Abbott, editor of the Outlook, are past eighty, while William Hayes. Ward of the Independent is just a kid of seventy-nine. Of the writers who are still youthful at seventy they are too numerous to mention in the columns of a daily newspaper.

Naturally, these men have led temperate lives—every one of them. They have not been total abstainers of alcoholic beverages or narcotics—not all of them—but they have been temperate in all things except work. None of them has been temperate in that. Take the case of Henry Watterson as an illustration. He has done more hard work than a plow horse. He has written incessantly for more than fifty years, day and night, and traveled and studied—if you want to call that work. It is doubtful if there has been another man in any land who has ever written more matter than Henry Watterson, and certainly very few in any clime that have written better or more force-fully. But Henry Watterson is no exception, William Dean Howells, whose "Leath-

Nothing to Brag About.

Visitor—You don't know who I am, do you, Jimmy?
Jimmy—Naw!
Visitor—Aha! I know who you are

Jimmy—Aw, that ain't nothin'—I know that myself.

New Garage—good roads all the way.
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